

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 49-59, 63-66, 69-78, 82-85 and 88 were rejected and claims 60-62, 67, 68, 79-81, 86 and 87 were objected to. The drawings were objected to, as they were not provided with proper cross-section hatching. New drawings were required to more clearly point out certain of the claimed subject matter. By the present Response, claims 49, 58, 70 and 77 are amended. The drawings have been amended to overcome the objection mentioned in the Office Action and new drawings have been provided. The specification has been amended to incorporate citations of the new drawings. No new matter has been added. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 49-88 will remain pending in the present patent application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims in light of the amendments and the following remarks.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to, as they were not provided with proper cross-section hatching. New drawings were required to bring out clearly certain of the claimed subject matter. The drawings have been replaced to obviate the objections raised in the Office Action. Review and acceptance of the replacement drawings are requested. New drawings have been provided. No new matter has been added. Review and acceptance of the new drawings are requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, claim 49 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tighe, Jr., U.S. Patent No. 4,719,319 (hereinafter "Tighe"), claims 49, 50, 52, 54-57, 64, 65, 70, 71, 73-76, 83 and 84 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rokas, U.S. Patent No. 4,443,277 (hereinafter "Rokas"), and claims 49, 51, 54, 69, 70, 72 and 88 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Zein et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0046870 (hereinafter "Zeins"). A *prima*

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the entire drawings as originally filed with the drawings attached with the present Response. Applicants respectfully submit that the present replacement pages do not add any new matter to the application.

facie case of anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102 requires a showing that each limitation of a claim is found in a single reference, practice or device. *In re Donohue*, 226 U.S.P.Q. 619, 621 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Applicants respectfully assert that the present invention, as recited in amended independent claims 49 and 70 is patentable over the Tighe, Rokas and Zeins references.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 49 and 70 have been amended to more clearly point out certain of the claimed subject matter. Specifically, each independent claim now recites, in generally similar language, *a subset of said electrical conductors being electrically coupled to one another*.

The Tighe, Rokas and Zeins references disclose electrical cables comprising multiple electrical conductors in various arrangements.

However, none of the references teaches or discloses an electrical cable comprising a plurality of electrical conductors bonded to respective neighboring ones of the electrical conductors to form a ribbon, the electrical conductors being electrically insulated from the respective neighboring ones, wherein a subset of electrical conductors are electrically coupled to one another. As set forth in the application, such electrical coupling of the conductors is useful for forming certain types of cabling, such as litz wire. The Examiner's own statement regarding the prior art demonstrates that this recitation have not been disclosed in any of the references. Accordingly, the references simply cannot anticipate the subject matter of claims 49 or 70, as amended. Applicants therefore stress that Tighe, Rokas and Zeins references cannot support a *prima facie* case of anticipation of amended claims 49 and 70.

Claims 50-52, 54-57, 64-65, 69, 71-76, 83-84 and 88 depend directly or indirectly from claims 49 and 70. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 50-52, 54-57, 64-65, 69, 71-76, 83-84 and 88 are allowable by virtue of their dependency from an allowable

base claim. Applicants also submit that the dependent claims are further allowable by virtue of the subject matter they separately recite. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of claims 49-52, 54-57, 64-65, 69-76, 83-84 and 88 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 53 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tighe in view of Shah et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,500,489. Claims 58, 59, 63, 66, 77, 78, 82 and 85 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rokas.

At least because the Tighe, Rokas and Zeins references, as discussed above, fail to teach or suggest electrical conductors being electrically coupled to one another in an electrical cable, and as Shah et al. fails to obviate at least this deficiency, Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness is not supported against claims 53, 58, 59, 63, 66, 77, 78, 82 and 85 for rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In formulating the rejection of claims 58, 59, 77 and 78, the Examiner essentially argued that it would be obvious to terminate different conductors of the Rokas cable at different ends. Even if this were true, nothing in the prior art would suggest *electrically coupling a subset of the conductors to one another*. Applicants respectfully submit that the Rokas reference, alone or in combination with other references, fails to teach, disclose or suggest electrical conductors being *electrically coupled to one another* in an electrical cable. In particular, it may be known or obvious for the electrical cable to terminate into some device, thereby providing electrical connections to different electrical conductor sets at two opposite ends, this is completely different from coupling the electrical conductors *in the electrical cable to one another*. Moreover, the claimed structure is completely unknown in the application of litz wires. The mere fact that the different conductors in an electrical

cable are at two opposite ends does not mean that it would be obvious to couple different conductors in the electrical cable are coupled to each other. Indeed, the opposite is generally the case to avoid short circuits between the terminated points.

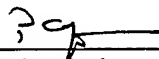
In view of the forgoing considerations, Applicants contend that the references fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of claims 53, 58, 59, 63, 66, 77, 78, 82 and 85. These claims are therefore believed to be clearly patentable over the cited references, and over combinations of these with the secondary references. Their consideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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